



Skeletonema potamos

A diatom

General

1. A small, centric diatom forming chains of 1—10 cells connected by tubular marginal processes

Geography and Habitat

1. Native: Unclear, though recorded throughout the Nearctic and Palearctic regions
2. Habitat:
 - Warm, stenothermic, and photophilic species with a broad salinity tolerance
 - Typical of freshwater rivers, freshwater lakes, tidal estuaries, and coastal marshes
 - Particularly abundant in eutrophic waters
 - May co-occur with species of blue-green algae; associated with relatively elevated concentrations of phosphorus, nitrogen, and chloride



Photo: Rex Lowe
<http://nas.er.usgs.gov/queries/FactSheet.aspx?SpeciesID=1689>

Invasion Pathways

1. Likely ballast water release

Sources

1. <http://nas.er.usgs.gov/queries/FactSheet.aspx?SpeciesID=1689>